



Michigan Department of Community Health, 201 Townsend Street, Lansing, MI 48933

## FLU UPDATES

### Journal Articles

According to [a new study presented](#) at the 2012 Pediatric Academic Societies Annual Meeting, pediatricians offered influenza vaccine for a longer time during influenza season and administered the vaccine more frequently during sick visits compared to family physicians.

[Clinical Infectious Diseases](#) published a study on an enhanced sentinel flu surveillance system in parts of Canada that helped health officials identify a rise in the number of long-term-care facility outbreaks, including higher-than-expected infection rates in vaccinated staff that occurred during the 2010-11 flu season. The community-based sentinel surveillance system showed circulating H3N2 variants and suboptimal vaccine effectiveness (VE).

### Additional Journal Articles:

- [Examining the knowledge, attitudes and practices of domestic and international university students towards seasonal and pandemic influenza](#)
- [Influenza-related deaths - available methods for estimating numbers and detecting patterns for seasonal and pandemic influenza in Europe](#)
- [Immunisation against influenza during pregnancy](#)
- [Reduced Influenza Antiviral Treatment among Children and Adults Hospitalized with Laboratory-Confirmed Influenza Infection in the Year Following the 2009 Pandemic](#)
- [Bacterial co-infection with H1N1 infection in patients admitted with community acquired pneumonia](#)

## QUADRIVALENT INFLUENZA VACCINE

[Sanofi Pasteur announced](#) that its new quadrivalent flu vaccine compared well with standard trivalent inactivated vaccines for safety and immunogenicity in children 6 months through 8 years old.

Related news article: [Sanofi Pasteur Presents Pediatric Data on Investigational Quadrivalent Influenza Vaccine](#)

## Influenza-related Hospitalizations

An Australian news [article reported](#) that the country had 12,790 influenza or pneumonia associated hospitalizations in the 2010-11 influenza season. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [the US cumulative](#) hospital rate (per 100,000) for all age groups from October 1, 2010–April 30, 2011, was 21.3 per 100,000.

## H5N1 Study Controversy

After months of debate, yesterday *Nature* published one of the controversial research [articles on aerosol transmission](#) of H5 influenza virus in ferrets.

Accompanying editorial: [“Publishing risky research”](#)

### Related news articles:

- [CIDRAP: Report details changes that may boost H5N1 spread in mammals](#)
- [Controversial Bird-Flu Research Published: How Worried Should We Be?](#)
- [NIH preparing tool to help labs cope with new DURC policy](#)
- [Kawaoka paper published on aerosol transmission of H5 influenza virus in ferrets](#)

## PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS

*Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness* recently published, [“The H1N1 Crisis: A Case Study of the Integration of Mental and Behavioral Health in Public Health Crises.”](#)

### Influenza News Articles

- [Health care workers have ethical responsibility to protect their patients from preventable infectious diseases](#)
- [Health care workers in Top of Utah are getting their vaccinations](#)
- [Flu activity winds down across Northern Hemisphere](#)
- [Vanderbilt Recognized by National Influenza Vaccine Summit](#)

## FLU RESOURCES

Stay up-to-date with:

MDCH: [www.michigan.gov/flu](http://www.michigan.gov/flu)

CDC: [www.cdc.gov/flu](http://www.cdc.gov/flu)

HHS: [www.flu.gov](http://www.flu.gov)

AARP recently posted a fact sheet: [“Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Influenza and Pneumococcal Immunization Rates among Medicare Beneficiaries.”](#)

### CME Opportunity

CME credits are available for the following journal article, [“Influenza-associated Hospitalizations by Industry, 2009-10 Influenza Season, United States”](#)

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